

Message Text

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ORIGIN INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMCONSUL MUNICH
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 145719

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, AL
SUBJECT: CHANGES IN ALBANIAN LEADERSHIP

REF: A - MUNICH LL62; B - USNATO 3348

1. REFTEL A (NOTAL) REQUESTED COMMENTS ON STATUS OF LLAMBI GEGPRIFTI, WHOSE NAME APPEARED JUNE 1 ON A LIST OF POLITBURO MEMBERS, AND THAT OF POLITBURO MEMBER AND PARTY SECRETARY RAMIZ ALIA, WHO HAS NOT BEEN MENTIONED IN ALBANIAN MEDIA SINCE END OF MARCH. BELOW IS IN RESPONSE TO RFE'S QUERY.
2. INFORMATION AVAILABLE THROUGH JUNE 16 SUGGESTS THAT RESHUFFLE OF POSSIBLY MAJOR IMPORTANCE IN ALBANIAN POLIT-
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BURO AND CABINET HAS OCCURRED OVER THE LAST MONTH OR SO.
THREE NEW POLITBURO MEMBERS, ONE PARTY SECRETARY, ONE
DEPUTY PREMIER, AND TWO NEW MINISTERS HAVE BEEN RECENTLY

IDENTIFIED IN ALBANIAN MEDIA.

3. INR'S ASSESSMENT OF GEGPRIFTI'S POLITBURO STATUS AGREES WITH RFE'S (REFTEL). WHETHER GEGPRIFTI IS A FULL OR ALTERNATE POLITBURO MEMBER CANNOT BE DETERMINED AS OF THIS TIME. NEVERTHELESS, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HE REPLACED ALTERNATE POLITBURO MEMBER PETRIT DUME.

4. ON JUNE 10 RADIO TIRANA IDENTIFIED PALI MISKA AS A FULL

POLITBURO MEMBER. HE WAS RE-ELECTED AS DEPUTY TO THE PARLIAMENT LAST OCTOBER FROM PUKE DISTRICT, WHERE HE HAS BEEN PARTY FIRST SECRETARY. MISKA WAS SIMULTANEOUSLY MENTIONED AS MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND MINES. THIS POSITION WAS HELD BY KOCO THEODOSI WHO MAY ALSO HAVE LOST HIS POLITBURO POST.

5. ON JUNE 16 CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER HEKURAN ISAI, FORMER PARTY FIRST SECRETARY FROM DIBER DISTRICT, WAS MENTIONED BOTH AS POLITBURO MEMBER AND PARTY SECRETARY. HE WAS ATTENDING THE CHHAK RECEPTION IN THE COMPANY OF HOXHA AND POLITBURO MEMBER AND PARTY SECRETARY RAMIZ ALIA. THE LATTER THUS EVIDENTLY RETAINS BOTH OF HIS POSTS.

6. PETRO DODE WAS MENTIONED ON JUNE 11 AS DEPUTY PREMIER AND ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE PLANNING COMMISSION, AS PART OF A HIGH-LEVEL ECONOMIC DELEGATION TO CHINA, LED BY DEPUTY PREMIER AND POLITBURO MEMBER ADIL CARCANI. DODE REPLACES ABDYL KELLEZI IN THESE TWO POSTS, AND HE MAY HAVE REPLACED KELLEZI ON THE POLITBURO, ALTHOUGH HE HAS THUS FAR NOT BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THAT POSITION. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT DODE'S PARTY SECRETARY POST HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER BY ISAI.

7. RECENT INR/RES STUDY ON EARLIER CHANGES IN THE MILITARY HIERARCHY HAS BEEN POUCHED TO ADDRESSEES.
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8. FOR BELGRADE AND ROME: DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION POSTS CAN ELICIT LOCALLY. KISSINGER

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BUCHAREST

MOSCOW

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